

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated September 13, 2006, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1 and 11 are currently amended to clarify the recited features of the invention.

In the Office Action, claims 1-5, 10-16 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,739,880 to Suzuki et al. (hereinafter “Suzuki”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,818,550 to Kadota et al. (hereinafter “Kadota”). Claims 1-5, 10-16 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,429,917 to Okamoto et al. (hereinafter “Okamoto”) in view of Kadota. Claims 6-9 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki or Okamoto in view of Kadota and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,481,388 to Aoya (hereinafter “Aoya”).

The rejection of claims 1-21 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 1-21 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, wherein the over-coat layer is “said thickness on the first substrate absorbing an external force, and preventing compression or depression of the black matrix” (claims 1 and 11 as amended). None of the cited references including Suzuki, Kadota, Okamoto, and Aoya, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. For example, Applicant’s note that none of the cited references disclose or suggest a thickness of the overcoat layer absorbing an external force or preventing compression or depression of the black matrix.

Accordingly, Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

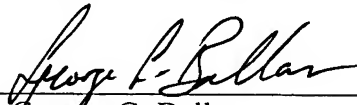
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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